LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) A method for configuring a path between nodes on a fibre channel fabric, comprising:

querying a name server for addresses of ports of a target node connected to a fabric;

receiving the address of a connected port;

querying the name server for port names corresponding to the received addresses;

receiving the port name of the connected port; and

generating an interface_id of the connected port, the interface_id corresponding to a slot number of the target node in which the port is located.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

from a WWNN of a target node and the interface_id of a selected port, generating the name of the selected port;

querying the name server with the name of the selected port;

receiving the address of the selected port; and

opening a session with the selected port.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising modifying a target node name to generate the name of each port in the target node.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein:

the target node name is a world wide node name; and

the port name of each port is a world wide port name.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein modifying the target node name comprises replacing a byte of the world wide node name with a byte indicative of the slot number.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the address of each connected port is a destination_id.

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7. (Original) A storage area network, comprising:

a source node;

a target node having a node name;

a selected port in the target node having a port address and a port name;

a fabric to which the source node and the target node are coupled;

a data structure associated with the source node establishing a relationship between the port name of the selected port with a physical slot of the target node in which the selected port is located;

means for obtaining the address of the selected port;

means for obtaining the name of the selected port in response to the obtained port address; and

means associated with the source node for accessing the data structure and generating the interface_id of the selected port in response to the obtained port name.

8. (Original) The storage area network of claim 7, further comprising:

means associated with the source node for accessing the data structure and generating the name of the selected port from an input node name and interface_id;

means for obtaining the address of the selected port from the generated port name; and

means for opening a session with the selected port in the target node in response to obtaining the port address.

9. (Original) The storage area network of claim 8, further comprising a name server, comprising:

means for receiving a query from the source node requesting addresses of ports in the target node; and

means for transmitting the port addresses to the source node.

10. (Original) The storage area network of claim 9, wherein the name server further comprises:

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means for receiving a query from the source node requesting port names corresponding to the transmitted port addresses; and

means for transmitting the port names to the source node.

11. (Original)   The storage area network of claim 9, wherein the name server further comprises:

means for receiving the name of the selected port and a query from the source node requesting the address of the port corresponding to the received port name; and

means for transmitting the address of the selected port to the source node.

12. (Original)   The storage area network of claim 8, wherein the means for obtaining the address of the selected port comprises:

means for transmitting the name of the selected port and a query to a name server on the fabric requesting the address of the port corresponding to the transmitted name; and

means for receiving the port address from the name server.

13. (Original)   The storage area network of claim 7, wherein the means for obtaining the address of the selected port comprises:

means for transmitting a query to a name server on the fabric requesting addresses of ports in the target node; and

means for receiving the port addresses from the name server, the received port addresses including the address of the selected port.

14. (Original)   The storage area network of claim 13, wherein the means for obtaining the name of the selected port comprises:

means for transmitting a query to a name server on the fabric requesting names of ports corresponding to the received port addresses; and

means for receiving the port names from the name server, the received port names including the name of the selected port.

15. (Original)   A computer program product of a computer readable medium usable with a programmable computer, the computer program product having computer-readable code embodied therein for configuring a path between nodes on a fibre channel fabric, the computer-readable code comprising instructions for:

querying a name server for addresses of ports of a target node connected to a fabric;

receiving the address of a connected port;

querying the name server for port names corresponding to the received addresses;

receiving the port name of the connected port; and

generating an interface_id of the connected port, the interface_id corresponding to a slot number of the target node in which the port is located.

16. (Original)   The program product of claim 15, further comprising instructions for:

from a WWNN of a target node and the interface_id of a selected port, generating the name of the selected port;

querying the name server with the name of the selected port;

receiving the address of the selected port; and

opening a session with the selected port.

17. (Original)   The program product of claim 15, further comprising instructions for modifying a node name to generate the name of each port in the target node.

18. (Original)   The program product of claim 17, wherein:

the node name is a world wide node name; and

the port name is a world wide port name

19. (Original)   The program product of claim 18, wherein the instructions for modifying the node name comprises instructions for replacing a byte of the world wide node name with a byte indicative of the slot number.

20. (Original) The program product of claim 15, wherein the address is a destination_id.

21. (Original) A method for establishing a path between nodes on a fibre channel fabric, comprising:

modifying a target node name to generate the name of each port in the target node;

querying a name server for addresses of ports of a target node connected to a fabric;

receiving the address of a connected port;

querying the name server for port names corresponding to the received addresses;

receiving the port name of the connected port;

generating an interface_id of the connected port, the interface_id corresponding to a slot number of the target node in which the port is located;

from a WWNN of a target node and the interface_id of a selected port, generating the name of the selected port;

querying the name server with the name of the selected port;

receiving the address of the selected port; and

opening a session with the selected port.

22. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein:

the target node name is a world wide node name; and

the port name of each port is a world wide port name.

23. (Original) The method of claim 22, wherein modifying the target node name comprises replacing a byte of the world wide node name with a byte indicative of the slot number.

24. (Original) The method of claim 22, wherein the address of each connected port is a destination_id.

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